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(Original Signature of Member)

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

To clarify that it is United States policy to recognize Israel's sovereignty
over the Golan Heights.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. GALLAGHER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on _____

A BILL

To clarify that it is United States policy to recognize Israel's
sovereignty over the Golan Heights.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That it is the sense of the House of Representatives
4 that—

5 **SECTION 1. FINDINGS.**

6 Congress finds the following:

7 (1) On September 1, 1975, President Gerald
8 Ford provided a diplomatic assurance to Israel that
9 “the U.S. will support the position that an overall

1 settlement with Syria in the framework of a peace
2 agreement must assure Israel's security from attack
3 from the Golan Heights [and] it will give great
4 weight to Israel's position that any peace agreement
5 with Syria must be predicated on Israel remaining
6 on the Golan Heights”.

7 (2) In October 1991, Secretary of State James
8 Baker provided a diplomatic assurance to Israel that
9 “the United States continues to stand behind the as-
10 surance given by President Ford to Prime Minister
11 Rabin on September 1, 1975”.

12 (3) Iran has used the war in Syria to establish
13 a long-term military presence in the Levant, to at-
14 tack Israel from across the Golan Heights, and to
15 create territorial corridors that allow it to provide
16 arms to its troops and terrorist proxies.

17 **SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

18 It is the sense of Congress that—

19 (1) Israel's security from attacks from Syria
20 and Lebanon cannot be assured without Israeli sov-
21 ereignty over the Golan Heights;

22 (2) in light of new realities on the ground, in-
23 cluding Iran's presence in Syria—

24 (A) it is unrealistic to expect that the out-
25 come of a peace agreement between Israel and

1 Syria will be an Israeli withdrawal from the
2 Golan Heights; and

3 (B) it is realistic to expect that any peace
4 agreement between Israel and Syria will only be
5 achieved on the basis of Israel remaining on the
6 Golan Heights; and

7 (3) it is in the United States national security
8 interest to ensure that—

9 (A) Israel retains control of the Golan
10 Heights; and

11 (B) the Syrian regime of Bashar al-Assad
12 faces diplomatic and geopolitical consequences
13 for its killing of civilians, the ethnic cleansing
14 of Arab Sunnis, and the use of weapons of
15 mass destruction.

16 **SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF UNITED STATES POLICY.**

17 It shall be the policy of the United States—

18 (1) to recognize Israel's sovereignty over the
19 Golan Heights; and

20 (2) to promote and conduct joint projects with
21 Israel on the Golan Heights, including projects—

22 (A) in basic and applied scientific fields;

23 (B) in industrial research and develop-
24 ment; and

1 (C) in strategic and applied research of ag-
2 ricultural problems.

3 **SEC. 4. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**

4 Any reference to “Israel” in any existing or future
5 Act of Congress relating to appropriations or foreign com-
6 merce, including customs and international trade, shall be
7 interpreted to include the Golan Heights.